

Civil Discourse Meeting Notes
January 7, 2011

Attending: Kathy Bodie, Joe Curro, Christine Elliott, Sean Garballey, Annie LaCourt, Nancy Rhoads, Fred Ryan, Miriam Stein, Dave Swaim

Reviewed Chip Berlet's recommendations: prepare responses & provide a consistent, town-wide message

Discussion about structure:

- Structure needs to support quick action. Annie, Fred, and Kathy all talked about structures their respective organizations have for responding to incidents quickly. Again, using these as a jumping off point can minimize the work this group needs to do.
- Consensus that AHRC should be the point of contact/initiator of calling meeting.

Discussion about getting the message out:

- Suggestion to bring the information officer on board for helping to craft a common message.
- A number of people mentioned the existence of templates for letters so that we don't have to start from scratch. Among other places to look are ADL and SPLC.

Other issues:

- Standardize methodology.
- Document assets and resources available.
- Victim advocacy.

Follow-up:

- Joe & Nancy will work on a structure for presenting at the next meeting.
- Kathy will gather some examples of templates for letters.
- Annie will speak with Brian about including Joan Roman at the next meeting.
- Fred will reserve the room.
- Next meeting: February 10 at 8:00 am.